

DIRECTOR DECISION – DD129

Title: Good Growth Fund Round 2: Canal projects – Design and delivery technical services

Executive Summary:

Following the award of £1.2 million capital funding from the Mayor of London's Good Growth Fund Round 2, OPDC have appointed design teams to progress two capital projects along the Grand Union Canal delivering improvements to the Old Oak Lane Towpath Ramp and community infrastructure at Harlesden Canalside.

This decision seeks approval for expenditure for technical services to support the design and delivery of the canal projects, such as conducting site surveys, fees related to consent and approvals and other unanticipated ad hoc technical support required for the delivery of the projects. Expenditure is also sought for specialist design advice at the delivery stage of projects and the appointment of Principal Designers to manage health and safety risks. These support services will be required over the course of FY 20/21.

Where possible, technical services will be procured through appointed design consultants. Any work requiring consultants to go on-site will comply with government guidance.

Decision:

That the Director approves:

- expenditure of up to £50,000 of Good Growth Fund Round 2 funding on external services to provide technical support to the design and delivery of canal projects.

AUTHORISING DIRECTOR

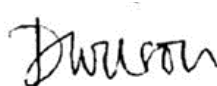
I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the OPDC business plan and priorities.

It has my approval.

Name: Davena Wilson

Position: Land and Property Director

Signature:



Date: 18 May 2020

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1 Introduction and background

- 1.1 Following completion of the Canal Placemaking Study (CPS), setting out a coherent vision and placemaking principles for the Grand Union Canal in the OPDC area, OPDC has been awarded £1,200,000 of capital funding from the Mayor of London's Good Growth Fund Round 2 to deliver a series of community and public realm focused initiatives along the Grand Union Canal in Old Oak and Park Royal to pilot and test principles from the CPS. The projects and funding were approved by OPDC Board on 26 September 2019.
- 1.2 Key aims of the projects are to encourage activity at key access points on the canal, improve access points from street level to the canal and improve biodiversity, signage and wayfinding along the canal to make this key environmental asset safe and welcoming to communities.
- 1.3 OPDC's CEO approved expenditure for the design fees of the Harlesden Canalside and Old Oak Lane towpath projects with a combined contract value of £150,000 (CD128). Since then, design teams have been appointed for both projects.
- 1.4 To support the design and delivery of these projects, ad hoc technical services need to be commissioned. This includes, but is not limited to, conducting site surveys, gaining approvals and consents and managing health and safety under CDM Regulations 2015.
- 1.5 This decision seeks approval of up to £50,000 expenditure of Good Growth Fund Round 2 funding towards technical support, as well as approval and consent fees for the design and delivery of the canal projects.
- 1.6 It is anticipated that the budget under this decision will be spent by the end of financial year 2020/2021. However, we do anticipate Covid-19 related restrictions to remain in place at least partially throughout summer. Design Team are currently working with the GLA to confirm a grant extension which may cause further delay to the projects. Programme and timescale adjustments will be made in coordination with the appointed consultants once the grant extension is formalised.

2 Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1 OPDC will commission technical surveys to inform design work on the Good Growth Fund round 2 funded canal projects. These surveys include, but are not limited to:
 - Topographical surveys;
 - Utilities surveys;
 - Building surveys;
 - Ecological surveys; and
 - Arboriculture surveys.

A schedule of required site surveys and associated costs will be drawn up by the appointed design teams.

- 2.2 A range of consents and approvals will be required. These include, but are not limited to:
 - Third Party Works consent from the Canal & River Trust;
 - Building Control from the Local Planning Authority;
 - Planning Consent from OPDC;
 - Defra consent; and
 - Basic Asset Protection Agreements from Network Rail.

A schedule of required consents and approvals, and associated costs, is being prepared by the project teams.

- 2.3 Where capital works are to be delivered through term contractors, design consultants will be appointed to advise on and manage design quality during RIBA Stage 5 and Stage 6.
- 2.4 OPDC will also appoint a Principal Designer to manage and monitor the risks to health and safety throughout the project as per CDM Regulations.
- 2.5 Other specialised ad hoc services may include, but are not limited to:
 - Community mentoring and volunteering initiatives to support capital projects; and
 - Additional design and technical support during technical design and construction delivery.

3 Equality comments

- 3.1 Under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, as a public authority, the OPDC must have 'due regard' of the need to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not; and (iii) foster good relations between people who have a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not. Relevant protected characteristics under section 149 are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation, and marriage or civil partnership status.
- 3.2 OPDC will ensure that any consultants appointed to this commission have firm and robust equality policies in place and are committed to proactively apply the principles of the Equality Act 2010 in their ways of working and their interactions with third party stakeholders and members of the community.

4 Other considerations

- 4.1 The project forms part of OPDC's 'In the Making' initiative, incorporating OPDC workstreams which are delivering creative projects and activities benefiting local communities and creating a new public life and a sense of place across Old Oak and Park Royal in the next 1-5 years, including:
 - Capital projects (public realm improvements, meanwhile activities – externally funded by Good Growth Fund);
 - Great Place Scheme projects (externally funded by Heritage Lottery Fund + Arts Council); and
 - Engagement initiatives (part of the Communications and Engagement team's workplans to engage with young people).
- 4.2 The In the Making capital projects form part of the first phases of OPDC's new approach and delivery Plan.
- 4.3 They enable OPDC to deliver improvements and pilot initiatives within locations where it is possible to accelerate delivery. A key aim is to provide confidence that OPDC are bringing forward the regeneration of Old Oak and Park Royal.
- 4.4 The overarching objectives of the In the Making initiative are:
 - Delivering everyday improvements and opportunities with and for local people;
 - Growing initiatives which will shape successful places; and
 - Celebrating and promoting what makes Old Oak and Park Royal special.

5 Financial comments

- 5.1 Expenditure of up to £50,000 on external services as detailed in this report will be funded by the Good Growth Fund 2020/21 budget. Officers are reminded to only incur eligible capital expenditure and to submit timely grant claims to the GLA, so as not to expose the Corporation to financial risk. Further expenditure is subject to the Corporation's decision making process.

6 Planned delivery approach and next steps

- 6.1 Where the contract cost of a commission is below £25,000 OPDC will not directly commission any technical surveys, specialist design support and other ad hoc technical services. Consultants to conduct technical surveys, specialist design support and other ad hoc technical services will be appointed directly by the design consultants already appointed for each project, or by the contractor in charge of delivering the capital works on the ground. They will submit to OPDC a list of requested surveys, specialist design support and other ad hoc technical services, and at least 3 quotes from specialised consultants. OPDC may request to amend the ask, and seek additional quotes before approving any appointment of specialist consultants by design consultants or contractors.
- 6.2 Commissions with a contract value of £25,000 or more will be managed by TfL.
- 6.3 The appointment of specialist consultants will be based on the most programme efficient and cost-effective proposal.
- 6.4 Indicative delivery timescales for these services are outlined below. However, we do anticipate Covid-19 related restrictions to remain in place at least partially throughout summer and delivery timescales will be updated accordingly in coordination with appointed consultants to reflect COVID-19 guidance and restrictions.

Activity	OOL Towpath	Harlesden Canalside
Site surveys	May 2020	June 2020
Consent fees	April 2020 – December 2020	August – December 2020
Specialist design advice	December 2020 – March 2021	May 2020 – February 2021
Principal Designer advice	April 2020 - ongoing	August – December 2020
Project completion	March 2021	March 2021

Appendices and supporting papers:

1. CEO DECISION – CD128 (20 February 2020)
2. Board Paper (September 2019)

Public access to information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act) and will be made available on the OPDC website within one working day of approval.

If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the decision (for example, to complete a procurement process), it can be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods should be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary.

Note: This form (Part 1) will either be published within one working day after approval or on the defer date.

Part 1 Deferral:

Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? NO

If YES, for what reason:

Until what date: (a date is required if deferring)

Part 2 Confidentiality: Only the facts or advice considered to be exempt from disclosure under the FOI Act should be in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a part 2 form – NO

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

Drafting officer
to confirm the
following (✓)

Drafting officer:

Jan Ackenhausen has drafted this report in accordance with OPDC procedures and confirms that:

✓

Finance advice:

The Finance team have commented on this proposal, and this decision reflects their comments

✓

Legal advice:

The Legal team have commented on this proposal, and this decision reflects their comments.

✓

CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER:

I confirm that financial and legal implications have been appropriately considered in the preparation of this report.

Date **18 May 2020**

Signature



